



Betula utilis



Height	15 – 20 m
Width	6-8m
Crown	oval, half-open crown
Bark and branches	branches brown, densely hairy and with many glands, bark greyish white to reddish brown, peeling
Leaf	oval to ovate, 5-12 cm long, dark green, autumn color yellow
Autumn colour	yellow
Flowers	catkins, yellow-green, ± 2 cm, 10-12 cm, March-April
Fruits	fruiting catkins 2.5-3.5 cm
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	clayed soil, loamy soil, sandy soil, peaty soil, nutrient-poor soil, acid soil, all soil types
Paving	tolerates partial paving
Winter hardiness zone	6 (-23,3 to -17,8 °C)
Wind resistance	good
Other resistances	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), can withstand wind
Fauna tree	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), can withstand wind, valuable for butterflies
Application	avenues and broad streets
Shape	clearstem tree, feathered tree, multi-stem tree

Betula utilis is a large tree with a broad oval crown up to about 20 m. The crown is more regularly shaped than in many other birches. The young twigs are distinctly hairy and glanded. The bark of older branches and trunk is peeling off in small to large strips, often sticking to the branches and trunk for a long time. The colour is highly variable, ranging from grey-white to deep red-brown. The dark green leaves turn yellow in autumn. Flowering with catkins can be striking, the fruits are not.

B. utilis is a variable species, mainly in terms of bark colour. Generally, the forms with white or grey bark originate from more western areas (western Himalayas, Kashmir), while the forms with (red) brown bark are native to the eastern Himalayas and western China. The well-known variety jacquemontii is thus the western variety. Stately tree that combines brilliant bark with healthy dark green leaves. Can grow in semi-open paving, making it suitable for use in wide avenues and streets.